

Press release

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Umicore outlines its European production roadmap for cathode materials

Further to its announcement earlier this year of a first production plant to manufacture cathode materials for the European automotive market, Umicore has now selected a site in Nysa, Poland, for this investment.

The plant will build upon the state-of-the-art and proprietary production technologies developed to meet the highest automotive performance and quality standards. The first phase of this investment is included in the € 660 million programme announced earlier this year and is due to start deliveries in late 2020.

Nysa is in the vicinity of its European customers and will give success to a skilled technical workforce as well as low-carbon electricity supply. The first phase is expected to create up to 400 jobs. The local authorities and Umicore aim to build a long-standing, mutually beneficial relationship thereby providing a stable environment for Europe's first substantial cathode material factory.

Umicore has also decided to build a new Process Competence Center at its existing site in Olen, Belgium, where it operates one of its largest R&D centers. The center will further strengthen Umicore's leadership in innovative energy-efficient production processes which will be applied to its high-technology installations worldwide. This investment is expected to be commissioned in late 2019 and will be employing around 20 researchers.

Marc Grynberg, CEO of Umicore, commented: "Both decisions are major milestones for Umicore and will significantly contribute to the European Union's initiative to promulgate a leading rechargeable battery industry based on innovative technologies and a sustainable supply chain."

About Umicore

Umicore is a global materials technology and recycling group. It focuses on application areas where its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy makes a real difference. Its activities are organised in three business groups: Catalysis, Energy & Surface Technologies and Recycling. Each business group is divided into market-focused business units offering materials and solutions that are at the cutting edge of new technological developments and essential to everyday life.

Umicore generates the majority of its revenues and dedicates most of its R&D efforts to clean mobility materials and recycling. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on an ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials in a way that fulfils its mission: materials for a better life.

Umicore's industrial and commercial operations as well as R&D activities are located across the world to best serve its global customer base. The Group generated a turnover of € 12.3 billion (€ 2.9 billion excluding metal) in 2017 and currently employs 9,700 people.

For more information

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